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Taxonomic Paper

New records of megophryids (Amphibia: Anura: Megophryidae) from Son La Province, Vietnam

Anh Van Pham[‡], Cuong The Pham[§], Lan Duc Doan[|], Thomas Ziegler[¶,#], Truong Quang Nguyen[§,¤]

‡ Faculty of Biology and Chemistry, Tay Bac University, Son La City, Son La Province, Vietnam
§ Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources, Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology, Hanoi, Vietnam
| Tay Bac University, Son La City, Son La Province, Vietnam
¶ Cologne Zoo, Cologne, Germany
# Institute of Zoology, University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany
¤ Graduate University of Science and Technology, Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology, Hanoi, Vietnam

Corresponding author: Truong Quang Nguyen (nqt2@yahoo.com)

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Abstract

Background

The family Megophryidae is one of the most poorly known groups of amphibians in Son La Province, Vietnam. In the herpetofaunal list of Vietnam in 2009 only two species of megophryids were recorded from this province and recent studies have documented five additional species of Megophryidae from Son La Province.

New information

Based on recent field work in northern Vietnam, we report six new provincial records of the family Megophryidae from Son La Province, namely *Leptobrachium ailaonicum*, *Leptobrachella sungi*, *Megophrys feae*, *M. jingdongensis*, *M. microstoma* and *M. parva*. In addition, morphological data were provided for each species, based on newly collected

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specimens. Our findings bring the species number of the family Megophryidae to 13 in Son La Province.

Keywords

Distribution, morphology, taxonomy.

Introduction

The family Megophryidae is one of the most poorly studied groups of amphibians in Vietnam. The knowledge about species diversity of this family in Vietnam has remarkably increased from 25 in 2009 to 57 at present (Nguyen et al. 2009, Frost 2019). Sixteen new species have been recently described in the last five years, namely *Leptobrachella ardens* (Rowley, Tran, Le, Dau, Peloso, Nguyen, Hoang, Nguyen & Ziegler), *Leptobrachella isos* (Rowley, Stuart, Neang, Hoang, Dau, Nguyen & Emmett), *Leptobrachella kalonensis* (Rowley, Tran, Le, Dau, Peloso, Nguyen, Hoang, Nguyen & Ziegler), *Leptobrachella macrops* Duong, Do, Ngo, Nguyen & Poyarkov, *Leptobrachella maculosa* (Rowley, Tran, Le, Dau, Peloso, Nguyen, Hoang, Nguyen & Ziegler), *Leptobrachella pallida* (Rowley, Tran, Le, Dau, Peloso, Nguyen, Hoang, Nguyen & Ziegler), *Leptobrachella petrops* (Rowley, Dau, Hoang, Le, Cutajar & Nguyen), *Leptobrachella puhoatensis* (Rowley, Dau & Cao), *Leptobrachella pyrrhops* (Poyarkov, Rowley, Gogoleva, Vassilieva, Galoyan & Orlov), *Leptobrachella rowleyae* (Nguyen, Poyarkov, Le, Vo, Ninh, Duong, Murphy & Nguyen), *Leptobrachella tadungensis* (Rowley, Tran, Le, Dau, Peloso, Nguyen, Hoang, Nguyen & Ziegler), *Megophrys elfina* Poyarkov, Duong, Orlov, Gogoleva, Vassilieva, Nguyen, Nguyen, Nguyen, Che & Mahony, *Megophrys fansipanensis* Tapley, Cutajar, Mahony, Nguyen, Dau, Luong, Le, Nguyen, Nguyen, Portway, Luong & Rowley, *Megophrys hoanglienensis* Tapley, Cutajar, Mahony, Nguyen, Dau, Luong, Le, Nguyen, Nguyen, Portway, Luong & Rowley, *Megophrys latidactyla* Orlov, Poyarkov & Nguyen, and *Megophrys rubrimera* Tapley, Cutajar, Mahony, Chung, Dau, Nguyen, Luong & Rowley (Poyarkov et al. 2017, Frost 2019). In addition, two species were recently recorded for the first time from Vietnam: *Megophrys daweimontis* Rao & Yang and *Megophrys synoria* (Stuart, Sok & Neang) (Le et al. 2014, Vassilieva et al. 2016).

In Son La Province, Nguyen et al. (2009) recorded only two species of the family Megophryidae, namely *Leptobrachium chapaense* (Bourret) and *Megophrys major* Boulenger; Pham et al. (2014b) recorded three additional species, namely *M. pachyproctus* Huang, *M. palpebralespinosa* Bourret, and *Leptobrachella ventripunctata* (Fei, Ye & Li). Pham et al. (2016) reported two species for the first time from this province, viz. *Leptobrachium masatakasatoi* Matsui and *Leptobrachella minima* (Taylor). Based on our recent field work in Son La Province between 2014 and 2017, we herein report six new provincial records of the family Megophryidae.